

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): Interface unit comprising:
 - a first component for establishing a connection to a radio network controller of a radio network sub-system by means of a first communication protocol,
 - a second component for establishing a connection to at least one access point of a wireless local area network by means of a second communication protocol,
 - a third component for converting the second communication protocol to the first communication protocol and for converting the first communication protocol to the second communication protocol,
 - a fourth component for providing data indicative of a load situation of at least one access point to the radio network controller.
2. (original): The interface unit of claim 1, the first connection being a long distance connection, such as an ATM-type or IP-type connection.
3. (original): The interface unit of claim 1, the second connection being a short distance connection, such as an Ethernet-type connection.

4. (original): The interface unit of claim 1 further comprising a fifth component for balancing the load of a number of the access points being comprised within a logical cell of the wireless local area network.

5. (original): The interface unit of claim 1 further comprising a sixth component for hand over control of wireless terminals between the access points being comprised within a logical cell of the wireless local area network.

6. (original): A telecommunication system comprising:

- a radio network controller for coupling to a core network and for coupling to one or more Node Bs,
- a wireless local area network having a number of access points,
- an interface unit for coupling the access points to the radio network controller, the interface unit having a component for providing data indicative of a load situation of the access points to the radio network controller.

7. (original): The telecommunication system of claim 6 further comprising a component for balancing the load of the access points being comprised within a logical cell of the wireless local area network, the component for load balancing being comprised in the interface unit.

8. (original): The telecommunication system of claim 6 further comprising a component for hand over control of wireless terminals between access points being comprised within a logical cell of the wireless local area network.

9. (original): The telecommunication system of claim 8, the component for hand over control being comprised in the radio network controller.

10. (currently amended): A telecommunication method comprising:

- providing of a 3GPP/UMTS-type system having one or more radio network controllers,
- providing of a wireless local area network-type system having a number of access points,
- coupling of the wireless local area network-type system to the 3GPP UMTS-type system by interconnecting the at least one radio network controller and the access points by means of ~~an~~ the interface unit as claimed in claim 1.